

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus that enables a telephony device of a party in communication with a mobile device to leave a voice mail for a mobile device user in the event that the communication with said ~~user's~~ mobile device is dropped during a call between said party and said mobile device user, the apparatus comprising:

voice message processing circuitry in communication with cell equipment of at least one cell of a wireless network, the voice message processing circuitry determining if the communication with said ~~user's~~ mobile device has been dropped during a call between said mobile device user and said party, wherein if the voice message processing circuitry determines that the communication with said ~~user's~~ mobile device user has been dropped during the call, the voice message processing circuitry automatically causes said telephony device of said party to be connected to a voice mail system associated with the dropped communication of said mobile device user so that said party can leave a voice mail message for said ~~the dropped~~ mobile device user to which a connection has been dropped from the call.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the voice message processing circuitry is comprised at a mobile switching center (MSC) of the wireless network, the MSC being in communication with said at least one cell of a wireless network.

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein, before the communication associated with the call is dropped, said party is communicating with the mobile device user via a landline telephony device that is in communication with the wireless network via a communication link between the MSC of the wireless network and a Public Switched Telephone

Network (PSTN), and wherein when said connection for said mobile device user is dropped from the call, the MSC causes the telephony device of the party to be connected to said voice mail system associated with the dropped communication of said mobile device user so that said party can leave a voice message for said ~~the dropped~~ mobile device user.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein, before the communication associated with the call is dropped, said party is communicating with said ~~the dropped~~ mobile device user over the wireless network via a mobile telephony device of said party that is in communication with said cell equipment of said at least one cell of the wireless network, and wherein when said connection for said mobile device user is dropped from the call, the MSC causes the party's mobile telephony device to be connected to the voice mail system associated with the dropped communication of said mobile device user so that said party can leave a voice message for said ~~the dropped~~ mobile device user.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein when the communication associated with the call is dropped, the MSC causes said party to be notified that the call has been dropped and that said party is being connected to the voice mail system associated with said dropped communication of said mobile device user so that said party can leave a voice message for said ~~dropped~~ mobile device user.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein when the communication associated with the call is dropped, and after said party leaves a voice message for said ~~the dropped~~ mobile device user, the voice message processing circuitry causes a signal to be

transmitted to the cell equipment, which transmits a notification intended for said ~~user's~~ mobile device user to inform said ~~dropped~~ mobile device user that said party has left a message for said ~~dropped~~ mobile device user to which said connection has been dropped form the call.

7. (Currently Amended) A wireless network that enables a telephony device of a party in communication with a mobile device of a mobile device user to leave a voice mail for said the mobile device user in the event that the communication with said ~~user's~~ mobile device is dropped during a call between said party and said mobile device user, the wireless network apparatus comprising:

at least a first mobile switching center (MSC);

cell equipment of at least a first cell of a first wireless network, the cell equipment of the first cell being in communication with the MSC; and

voice message processing circuitry, the voice message processing circuitry determining if the communication with said ~~user's~~ mobile device has been dropped during a call between said user and said party, wherein if the voice message processing circuitry determines that the communication with said ~~user's~~ mobile device has been dropped during the call, the voice message processing circuitry automatically causes said telephony device of said party to be connected to a voice mail system associated with the dropped communication of said mobile device user so that said party can leave a voice mail message for said the dropped mobile device user to which a connection has been dropped from the call.

8. (Currently Amended) The wireless network of claim 7, further comprising:

at least a second mobile switching center (MSC); and

cell equipment of at least a second cell of a second wireless network, the cell equipment of said second cell being in communication with the second MSC, the second MSC being in communication with the first MSC, the voice message processing circuitry being comprised at the second MSC, wherein before the communication associated with the call is dropped, said party is communicating with the cell equipment of said second cell via a mobile telephony device of said party, and said user is communicating with the cell equipment of the first cell of the first wireless network via said user's mobile device, and wherein when said voice message processing circuitry determines that the communication with said ~~user's~~ mobile device has been dropped during a call between said mobile device user and said party, the first MSC informs the second MSC of the dropped call and the second MSC automatically causes the party's mobile telephony device to be connected to a voice mail system associated with the dropped communication for said mobile device user so that said party can leave a voice mail message for said ~~the dropped~~ mobile device user.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ wireless network of claim 7, wherein the voice message processing circuitry is comprised at said cell equipment of said at least a first cell.

10. (Cancel)

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ wireless network of claim 7, wherein the voice message processing circuitry is comprised at the first MSC, and wherein, before the communications associated with the call is dropped, said party is communicating with said ~~the~~ mobile device user via a landline telephony device that is in communication with the first

wireless network via a communication link between the first MSC of the first wireless network and a Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN), and wherein when said connection for said mobile device user is dropped from the call, the first MSC causes the landline telephony device of the party to be connected to the voice mail system associated with said ~~the dropped~~ mobile device user.

12. (Currently Amended) The wireless network of claim 7, wherein the voice message processing circuitry is comprised at the first MSC, and wherein, before the communications associated with the call is dropped, said party and said mobile device user are communicating with each other over the first wireless network, said party using a mobile telephony device that is in communication with said cell equipment of said at least one cell of the wireless network to communicate with said ~~user's~~ mobile device user, and wherein when said connection for said mobile device user is dropped from the call, the first MSC causes the party's mobile telephony device to be connected to the voice mail system associated with said ~~the dropped~~ mobile device user.

13. (Currently Amended) The wireless network of claim 7, wherein when the communication associated with the call is dropped, the first MSC causes said party to be notified that the call has been dropped and that said party is being switched to the ~~dropped mobile device user's~~ voice mail system of said mobile device user so that said party can leave a voice message for said ~~the dropped~~ mobile device user to which said connection has been dropped from the call.

14. (Currently Amended) The wireless network of claim 7, wherein when the communication associated with the call is dropped, and after said party leaves a voice message for ~~the dropped~~ said mobile device user, the first MSC causes a signal to be transmitted to the cell equipment of the first cell, which transmits a notification intended for said ~~the user's~~ mobile device user to inform said mobile device user that said party has left a message for said mobile device user to which said connection has been dropped from the call.

15. (Currently Amended) A method that enables a telephony device of a party in communication with a mobile device of a user of a wireless network to leave a voice mail for said ~~the~~ mobile device user in the event that the ~~user's~~ communication with said mobile device is dropped during a call between said party and said mobile device user, the method comprising the steps of:

determining whether the communication with said ~~user's~~ mobile device has been dropped during a call between said mobile device user and said party; and

if a determination is made that the communication with said ~~user's~~ mobile device has been dropped during the call, automatically connecting said telephony device of said party to a voice mail system associated with the dropped communication of said mobile device user so that said party can leave a voice mail message for said ~~the dropped~~ mobile device user to which a connection has been dropped from the call.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein, before the communication associated with the call is dropped, said party is communicating with said ~~the~~ mobile device user via a landline telephony device that is in communication with the wireless network via a

communication link between the MSC of the wireless network and a Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN), and wherein the MSC performs the step of determining whether the communication with said ~~user's~~ mobile device has been dropped, wherein if the MSC determines that the communication with said mobile device user has been dropped from the call, the MSC automatically causes the party's landline telephony device to be connected to said voice mail system associated with the dropped communication for said mobile device user so that said party can leave a voice message for said ~~the dropped~~ mobile device user.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein, before the communication associated with the call is dropped, said party is communicating with said ~~the dropped~~ mobile device user over the wireless network via a mobile telephony device that is in communication with said cell equipment of said at least one cell of the wireless network, the MSC performing the step of determining whether the communication with said ~~user's~~ mobile device user has been dropped, wherein if the MSC determines that said connection for said mobile device user has been dropped from the call, the MSC causes the party's mobile telephony device to be connected to the voice mail system associated with the dropped communication for said mobile device user so that said party can leave a voice message for said ~~the dropped~~ mobile device user.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising the step of:

if a determination is made that the call has been dropped, causing said party to be notified that the call has been dropped and that said party is being connected to the voice mail system associated with ~~said~~ the communication for said dropped mobile device user so that said party can leave a voice message for said ~~dropped~~ mobile device user.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising the step of:

if a determination is made that the call has been dropped, and after said party leaves a voice message for said ~~the dropped~~ mobile device user, transmitting a signal to the cell equipment, which transmits a notification intended for said ~~user's~~ mobile device user to inform said ~~dropped~~ mobile device user that said party has left a message for said ~~dropped~~ mobile device user to which said connection has been dropped from the call.

20. (Currently Amended) A computer program that enables a telephony device of a party in communication with a mobile device of a user of a wireless network to leave a voice mail for a mobile device user in the event that the communication with said ~~user's~~ mobile device is dropped during a call between said party and said mobile device user, the computer program being embodied on a computer readable medium, the program comprising:

a first code segment, the first code segment determining whether the communication with said ~~user's~~ mobile device has been dropped during a call between said mobile device user and said party; and

a second code segment, wherein if the first code segment determines that the communication with said ~~user's~~ mobile device has been dropped during the call, the second code segment causes said telephony device of said party to be connected a voice mail system associated with the dropped communication of said mobile device user so that said party can leave a voice mail message for said ~~the dropped~~ mobile device user.

21. (Currently Amended) The computer program of claim 20, wherein, before the communication associated with the call is dropped, said party is communicating with said user's mobile device via a landline telephony device that is in communication with the wireless network via a communication link between a mobile switching center (MSC) of the wireless network and a Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN), and wherein if the second code segment determines that said mobile device user has been dropped from the call, the second code segment automatically causes the landline telephony device to be connected to said voice mail system associated with the dropped communication of said mobile device user so that said party can leave a voice message for said ~~the dropped~~ mobile device user.

22. (Currently Amended) The computer program of claim 20, wherein, before the communication associated with the call is dropped, said party is communicating with said ~~the dropped~~ mobile device user over the wireless network via a mobile telephony device of said party, the mobile telephony device being in communication with cell equipment of a cell of the wireless network, and wherein if said second code segment determines that the communication with said mobile device user has been dropped from the call, the second code segment causes the party's mobile device to be connected to the voice mail system associated with the communication of said ~~the dropped~~ mobile device user so that said party can leave a voice message for said ~~the dropped~~ mobile device user.

23. (Currently Amended) The computer program of claim 20, further comprising a third code segment, wherein if the second code segment determines that the communication associated with the call has been dropped, the third code segment causes said party to be notified that the

call has been dropped and that said telephony device of said party is being connected to the voice mail system associated with the communication of said ~~dropped~~ mobile device user so that said party can leave a voice message for said ~~dropped~~ mobile device user.